



# Department of Justice

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Eastern District of California

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## **ANDERSON OFFICE MANAGER FACING FEDERAL CHARGES FOR EMBEZZLING OVER \$1 MILLION FROM KNIGHTEN CONSTRUCTION**

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that NANCY FRANCES FISKE, 57, of Anderson, California, was arraigned today on a charge of mail fraud.

This case is the product of an extensive joint investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Anderson Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthew Stegman, who is prosecuting the case, FISKE was employed by Jerry L. Knighten Construction, Inc., for which she held positions at different times as bookkeeper, controller, and office manager. FISKE, a trusted employee with up to 12 years employment at the company, had access to company business checks. From December 2001 to June 2007, FISKE used her company positions to issue over 500 business checks from the bank accounts of Knighten Construction that were made payable to others, for her own benefit, such as for her personal home improvements, credit card payments, and other expenses of her and her family members. She then attempted to avoid detection by making false ledger entries to make it appear as though the checks were issued for legitimate business purposes. FISKE issued over 500 such checks, defrauding Knighten Construction out of approximately \$1,352,882.54.

The maximum statutory penalty for a violation of mail fraud is 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. The actual sentence, however, will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

FISKE's next court appearance will be before District Court Judge Garland E. Burrell, Jr., on September 5, 2008.

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